



Cambridge Parade Manly Circa 1920

# Wynnum Manly Historical Society Inc

*"Our aim is to gather and record local history before it is lost."*

www.wmhs.org.au

ABN 49 071 835 845



## NEWSLETTER

## June 2023

## Issue. No. 152

### June General Meeting

### THURSDAY 15 June 2023

7.00pm for 7.15pm start

Wynnum Ambulance Auditorium  
Corner Tingal Road / Cedar Street

## Chris Pearce

Author of

“Through the Eyes of  
Thomas Pamphlett”

will present

## The Castaways’ Journey 200 Years Ago

Three castaways, Richard Parsons, Thomas Pamphlett and John Finnegan, were lost in the Moreton Bay area in 1823, the year before Brisbane was founded. They had set off from the Hawkesbury to fetch cedar at the Illawarra but were blown out to sea.

They were finally beached on Moreton Island, but not before losing a fourth member of their party, John Thompson. They thought Sydney was to the north, so they trekked around Moreton Bay and up to Bribie Island and the Sunshine Coast, impeded by sea, rivers and creeks, lack of food, and each other.

They lived for extended periods with several groups of Aborigines. After more than seven months in the area, they were found by explorer John Oxley

**Bring and Buy !!** (See page 4)

Raffle

Lucky Door

Refreshments

Gold Coin Donation

Chris Pearce

Though born in UK, Chris grew up in Melbourne and has also lived at Phillip Island, Townsville and Canberra, before making his home in Brisbane.

He has worked in market research, strategic planning and marketing. He holds an Honours Economic degree and Master of Business Administration.

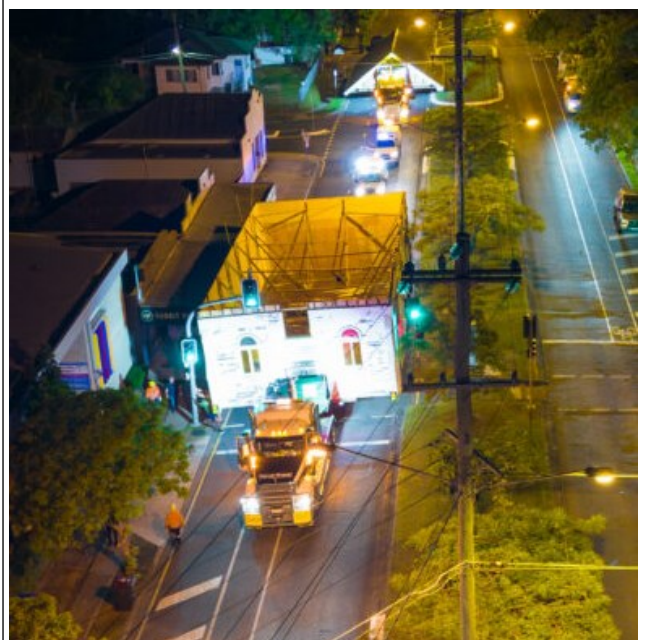
He has a great interest in reading and in history. By writing about Thomas Pamphlett twenty years ago, he filled a missing gap about the man who helped Oxley find the Brisbane River.

### The Old Baptist Church

#### Arrives at Iona.

Early morning Friday 28 April 2023.

The old church travelled for four hours.



Tingal Road Outside the “Rabbit Hole”

Located in the “Old School Building” at Room1.08, 105 Florence Street, Wynnum  
Open Monday to Friday 10.00am to Noon or by appointment. 0407 293 177)

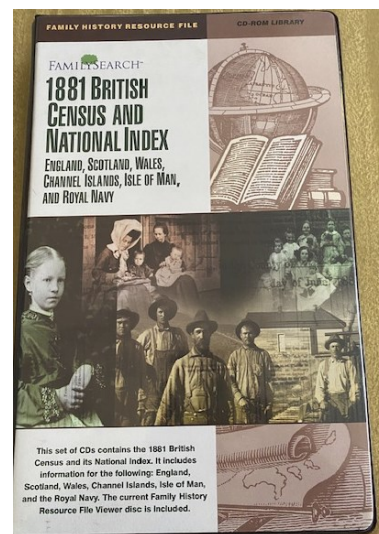
## The Great Move is complete.

The former Baptist Church arrives at its new home. Away from the hustle and bustle of Bay Terrace the building nestles in the trees in the quiet surroundings of Iona College at Lindum. (29 April 2023).



When restoration is complete, a grand opening is planned to take place in January 2024. The name of the building will be Lindum-mere, in remembrance of the name of the home of the former owners of this land at Lindum.

## Recent Gifts



These discs are surplus to our needs. If anyone is interested in Family History discs, and can use these discs, please let me know.

Till next time. Jill. (jillg01@tpg.com.au)

## WHERE WAS I? May 2023



Manly Lota RSL Hall  
184 Melville Terrace  
Manly



Manly Progress Association was formed on the 4th December 1911 in Paton's Hall (then located in the car park of today's Manly Village Shopping Centre). The first meeting of the Progress Association was on 20 January 1912. Fifty people met in Paton's Hall. The concern was for the welfare of the district. Nineteen rules, for guidance of the new Association were passed. Paton's Hall was used for meetings between 1911 and 1919.

The Association worked for nine years to build their own premises. There were many activities. For example, in the "Courier" we read, "Proceeds of a Ball held in the Strand Theatre in 1927 were for the building of a Public Hall." "In 1928, a fete raised more funds." "In 1929, a third Annual Ball was held in the Strand Theatre." And so on.

A freehold site was purchased near the "Five ways, crossing in Manly". The structure was to be 85ft by 46ft, cost £600, and include a stage, a cloak room, a dance floor, all with utmost ventilation.



The stump capping ceremony was held on 13 September 1935, when £37 was placed under the stump caps.

The official opening of the completed Manly Progress Hall was on 6 June 1936.

Wynnum Manly RSSAILA Clubhouse was established in 1925 in Tingal Road, Wynnum. For Manly Lota residents the distance to travel to Wynnum was too great.

Bill Gunn, MP. founded the Manly-Lota Returned Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen's Imperial League Association (RSSAILA) on 21st September 1936 in Manly Progress Hall. Early meetings were in members' homes. One hundred and fifteen members had been gained in the first year. In June 1940 a piece of land, including a derelict hut, was purchased on the corner of Nelson Parade and the Esplanade. A temporary Clubhouse was erected, which is now a residence, named Boswell Cottage. This sub-branch was the first branch in South East Queensland to own its own freehold property.



*Boswell Cottage*

The Manly Progress Association owned the larger Hall. As many RSL members were also members of the Progress Association, the Manly-Lota RSL purchased the Progress Hall.

From 1 January 1952 the Hall was known as the Manly-Lota RSSAILA Memorial Hall.

## WHERE AM I? June 2023



Till next Time,

Jill

Here is the summary of the presentation given to the Society by speaker, Patrick Collins at the Society's meeting, held on Thursday 18 May 2023, kindly written by President, Lucy Laakso.

**“Foundations of the Native Police in future Queensland 1848-1856”  
Research by Patrick Collins**



At our May 2023 meeting, we welcomed guest presenter Patrick Collins. Patrick has written a book titled “Goodbye Bussamarai: Aboriginal Landowners, Colonisers and Native Police at War, Southern Queensland 1842-1852” (2<sup>nd</sup> edition 2022). Patrick explained that his book contained much more detail and that his talk was centred on the material in chapter 4 of his book.

Patrick gave background information to the formation of the force, including that the Royal Irish Constabulary was used as something of a guide for how the Native Police force could be operated. Closer to home, the Native Police in

Victoria (1837-1853) was a basis on which the Native Police in future Queensland was partly modelled. (‘Future Queensland’ refers to landscape that would eventually become Queensland; Queensland separated from New South Wales in 1859.)

The Native Police in future Queensland started in the late 1840s and included European-descent officers and First Nations troopers. Lieutenant Frederick Walker was the Native Police Commandant from 1848-1855. Walker recruited the first of the First Nations troopers in 1848; between 1848 and 1850, recruits hailed from the south of the country; between 1851 and 1852, local recruits were dominant. Lieutenant Walker supervised the growth of the force until he was dismissed in 1855.



*Native Police tracking Kelly Gang 1879*

Patrick showed pictures of the force's blue uniforms. It was a mounted force and its members were well trained, armed and very good shots. Patrick explained that the Native Police rarely chased those of European descent but, as a special tasking, they were engaged to track the Kelly gang. Patrick showed a photo (1879) of the troopers assigned to that role.

Thank you to Patrick for giving us some insights into the topic covered in more detail within your book

Until next time...

Lucy Laasko (President)

**Re-Introduction of Pre-Covid “Bring and Buy” Stall ,with a difference!**

At the General meeting each month. Just books, that you have enjoyed, craft and home-made goodies.



Book Swap - Free. Book Purchase \$1 Goodies - \$2.00 **BRING SOME CASH!** No ornaments, jewelry, clothes etc.



**The Society is proposing to visit the Annual Flinder's Day Re-enactment on Sunday 16 July 2023**

*Indicative timing for a WMHS outing to Flinders Day 2023 (Coochiemudlo Island):*

8.15am	Meet at Wynnum Ambulance Auditorium if car-
8.30am	Carpooling departs (36 min drive to ferry terminal)
9.15am	Arrive ferry terminal
9.30am ferry departs	Victoria Point to Coochiemudlo Island
9.40am	Arrive Coochie
10.20am	Assemble at memorial flagpole
10.25am-midday	Speeches then re-enactment
12.45pm ferry departs	Coochie to Victoria Point
1pm	Carpooling departs (36 min drive to Wynnum)
1.45pm	Depart Ambulance Auditorium

*Ferry fares: adult fare for return trip \$12; concession card holder \$6. Pay onboard using EFTPOS.*

*There are markets being held on Coochie on the day. They start at 9am and finish at 1.30pm. If you'd like to visit the markets, then please use your own transport to and from Victoria Point (rather than carpooling).*

*Please let the Society know if you are interested in joining the outing. Jill - At Resource Room. Lena - 3393 4393*

**Who was Matthew Flinders and why is this re-enactment day celebrated?**

**Matthew Flinders** was born in 1774 at Donington, near Spalding in Lincolnshire, England. His father was a surgeon. He was educated Cowley's Charity School in Donington and John Shinglar's Grammar School in Horbling, Lincolnshire.

By 15 years Matthew was a member of the Royal Navy.

His first visit to Australia was in 1795. At 21 years he sailed into Port Jackson, NSW as a midshipman.

His second trip was in 1798, as a Lieutenant. He left England in command of the sloop "Norfolk".

On 17 July 1799 he entered Moreton Bay and landed at Pumicestone Passage, Coochiemudlo (19 July 1799 – local Flinder's Day) and Redcliffe, which he named because of its red cliffs.

On this trip he was the second person to circumnavigation of Australia. He named Australia, Terra Australis and identified the land as a continent.

After his third visit to Australian waters he was returning home and required urgent repairs to his boat at Mauritius. England and France were at war at the time and he was imprisoned for 6 years, returning to England in poor health.

He died 1810 aged 40 years, and was buried at Hampstead Road, Camden, the churchyard of St James Piccadilly. The church yard was lost as Euston Station grew in size and, it was said that, some of the graves were buried under one of the platforms.

Euston Station grew in size again. During the re-construction, in January 2019, Flinders' grave and remains were found, identified by his well-preserved lead coffin plate, and a naval captain's breastplate on top of his coffin. The coffin was found buried at St James's Gardens behind Euston Station, and not under one of the platforms.

Osteoarcheologists investigated looking for clues as to how his life at sea affected his health. (*Guardian 25.01.2019*) His remains are to be buried in his home village of Donington, at St Mary's and the Holy Rood church, on 16 March 2024 to commemorate the 250th anniversary year of his birth. (*Flinders University News 22.01.2022*)

## OUR LOCAL ACHIEVERS:

Again our Tuesday morning clipping expert, Margaret Bulloch, finds us a story . . . .

**Profile** by Geoff Shearer

### A COLOURFUL TEACHING CAREER COMES TO AN END

SOUT-EAST QUEENSLAND'S FIRST FEMALE SECONDARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL HAS RETIRED



Miss Pledger said.

As she sat comfortably in the sunroom of her Wynnum Heights home, an engaging sense of humor punctuated her conversation.

"I did my country service at Emu Creek Upper provisional school out west," she said.

"It was a one teacher school. I'll never forget when I first saw the little timber schoolhouse.

"It had been closed for two months before I arrived because the children had scabies. Goats had taken up residence on the front veranda.

"But I got things going and when I look back now I'd have to say the three years I spent there were some of the most rewarding in my time."

From a fledgling teacher at Wynnum North Primary School, Phyllis Pledger has come full circle to end her career as principal of Wynnum North State High.

Miss Pledger's early retirement followed a long and colourful career which began with a short teaching appointment to Wynnum North Primary many years ago. Her reluctance to give the exact date, for fear of revealing her age, showed in a half smile

"All I can say is my family and I have lived in this area more than 50 years and I've been a teacher for over 40,"

Born in Kingaroy and educated at Wynnum Central State School, Miss Pledger said there was some justification for the old-guard school of discipline.

Standards have to be set right from the beginning, she said.

"You have to start at Year 8, Setting those standards is the biggest battle," she said.

"Once in line, you'll find most of the students become proud of the school's standards and anybody who is not co operating will be in the minority

"Then you can rely on the seniors for the tone of the school."

After her country service at Emu Creek Upper, Miss Pledger returned to Wynnum North primary for 6 years before leaving again for more country service. Miss Pledger returned to the bayside in 1958 as one of the four original teachers at Manly West Primary.

With the abolition of the Scholarship exam, she was transferred to secondary education and taught at Balmoral High, then to Sunnybank High as deputy principal and then to Rosewood State High, as Principal.

In 1986 she was transferred to Wynnum North State High as principal. "Really the wheel has turned a complete circle, from Wynnum North back to Wynnum North," she said.

I'm very happy now I've retired. If you give everything you have to your work then you are under a certain amount of stress.

"It was great to wake up the other day and not have to go to school" Miss Pledger intends travelling now she has the time.

A trip to Cape York is planned with fiends for the middle of the year and she hopes to go trekking in Nepal at a later date.

Apart from travelling, Miss Pledger said she would be pursuing her interests in croquet, bush walking, the Wynnum Manly Zonta Club and bird watching.

*Wynnum Herald* Feb 2 1989

### Vale - Marjorie Smyth (nee Reece)

John and Marjorie were both born in Wynnum Manly. On retirement the couple moved away to Runaway Bay, north of Southport. Whenever they visited Wynnum they would drop into our room(s), bringing mementoes of the district as well as home-made cakes for the Society. Marjorie was one of the final manual telephonists who lost their jobs when the Wynnum exchange became automatic in 1955. John's grandfather, Johnston Smyth, was Chair of the Wynnum Shire Council in 1903/04/05 and Mayor of Wynnum Town Council 1918. The Society is sending their condolences.

# What's On

Date	Event	Venue	Booking
Saturday 10 June 2023. 7 - 9.00pm.	“Paranormal Investigation”. Discover the haunted heritage of Wolston Farmhouse. Light Refreshments	Wolston Farmhouse Age 16+Only. 3088 8133 23 Grindle Road, Wacol.	\$45.00 Pre-book: National Trust on line. 5534 1266
Fri/Sat 9/10 June 2023. 5.30 - 7pm	Qld Day Play. “The other Diggers.” (Women's Land Army) Incl, 2 course meal.	Redlands Museum 60 Smith Street, Cleveland.	\$39.00 (Meal and Show). Book 3286 3494.
Sat Jun 17 to Tues June 20 2023. 8am - 7pm.	Brisbane Lifeline Bookfest. 4 km of trestle tables. Shopping Trollies to car books to car.	Halls 3 and 4, Brisbane Convention Centre South Brisbane.	Free. Cashless Event. Supporting Lifeline Crisis Services.
Tues June 20 or Fri June 23. 10 - 11am.	“Criminal Records. Offenders in the collection.”	National Archives of Australia 16 Corporate Drive Cannon Hill.	Free Book 3249 4200
Fri 23 June 2023. 7.30 - 9.45pm.	“The Women of South Brisbane Cemetery.” Night Tour. “Discover some Real History”	South Brisbane Cemetery 185 Annerley Road Dutton Park. (Friends of South Brisbane Cemetery)	\$15. Paypal <a href="http://www.fosbc.com/tours/women">www.fosbc.com/tours/women</a>
Fri June 30 to Mon 31 July 2023.	U3A Redlands 25th Anniversary Year “Shine a light on Learning”. Exhibition.	Redland Museum 60 Smith St Cleveland.	\$10 Admission to Museum Mon - Fri 10am - 3.30pm
Friday 16 June 2023.	Bremer Junction Day Cruise. (Only available on certain tides)	“Lady Brisbane” Hamilton Recreational Pontoon, 449 Kingsford Smith Drive, Hamilton.	\$85. Book at Brisbane Cruises Ph: 3630 2666
Sat/Sun 15/16 July 2023. 9 - 5pm	Keep these dates free for Annual “Brisbane Open House” event.	Buildings to open will be announced soon.	Free

## PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

History of Music in Wynnum Manly 1900 - 1997	Betty Nock	\$ 5
History of Arts in the Wynnum Manly Area 1900 - 2003	Betty Nock	\$ 5
Bayside Biographies. People from Wynnum Manly. 1900 -2007	Betty Nock	\$ 5
Mangroves to Moorings re-visited	Myrtle Beitz	\$35
Lota House: Photos over 150 years	Myrtle Beitz	\$15
Story of Lota House 1867 - 2017	Myrtle Beitz	\$ 5
Church Buildings of Wynnum Manly and Lota	Coupland and Greenhill	\$10
Early Shipping in Moreton Bay 1846 - 1859	Davenport and Mottram	\$ 5
Early Shipping in Moreton Bay 1860 - 1863	Davenport and Mottram	\$ 5

Available at the  
Resource Room  
Weekdays 10am -Noon  
Email:  
[jillg01@tpg.com.au](mailto:jillg01@tpg.com.au)

**Wynnum Manly Historical Society Inc**  
Minutes of General Meeting held in Ambulance Auditorium, Tingal Road  
on Thursday 18 May 2023

**Meeting opened** at 7.15pm

There were 24 members present, 4 apologies and 7 visitors, Mandy Rouhsefell, Paul Child, Kris Freeman, Alan Burrell, Roisin Burrell, Lee Beanland and Simon Brown.

**President, Lucy Laakso** took the chair, introduced herself, and invited visitors to tell the Society how they had heard about the meeting.

**Previous Minutes:** (Jill)

Minutes of Meeting of Thursday 20 April 2023 were accepted by Ellen Coupland, seconded by Eric Sibley.

**Treasurer's Report:** (Report from Jill- A/Geraint)

Cash Management A/C No. 20139708, Bus Web Saver A/C No. 2019708 and Term Investment A/c 23366345.

All Accounts:

Bank Balance at 1 April 2023	\$30,681.08.	At 30 April 2023	\$30,543.95
		Everyday A/C	\$ 8,398.40
		Building A/C	\$ 7,145.55
		Fixed Term (to 23/11'23)	<u>\$15,000.00</u>
			<b><u>\$30,543.95</u></b>

Lena presented the **Correspondence report** from 1 to 30 April. The correspondence was accepted and endorsed at the committee meeting held on Thursday 4 May 2023. Correspondence was on front table for perusal.

**Resource Centre:** (Jill)

The answer to the question, "Where am I", was looking at the front door of the Manly Lota RSL Hall in Melville Terrace Manly. The hall was built by the Manly Progress Association, as the first public Hall in Manly, in June 1930 after many years of fund raising. The RSL purchased the hall in 1940.

The Bay Terrace Baptist Church has now reached the grounds of Iona College. **Father Twigg**, will show pictures and video of the journey at the next meeting. The new name for the church is Lindum Mere, after the name of the home of an early landholder in Lindum, Edward Kelk.

The church will reopen in February 2024 with a Lindum Pioneer Day celebration

**Speaker: Patrick Collins:**

Patrick provided us with an illustrated talk about the origins and the history of the native police in southern Queensland. They operated for over 50 years from 1849 to 1904. The aboriginal troopers were led by white officers appointed by the colonial government. The native police were primarily utilized to patrol vast geographical areas along the colonial frontiers in the late 1800s. The various groups of militia were recognised by the colour of their jackets. The native police were dressed in blue jackets. The native police were brutally destructive and the rate of trooper desertion in some units was high. They steadily decreased in number.

**Lucky Door:** Ellen Coupland

**Raffle (Donated by Lena):** : Fay Schultz

Meeting closed 8.30pm and members were invited to partake of refreshments, aided by Ellen Coupland and Lena

We thank our Patron, Joan Pease, for her ongoing encouragement and support

**Wynnum Manly Historical Society Inc**

Postal Address: 51 Drayton Terrace, Wynnum Qld 4178.

Email: secretary@wmhs.org.au Secretary: 0431 332 207 or 3393 4393

Committee: Lucy Laakso, Lena McCreadie, Geraint Gregory, Jill Greenhill, Myrtle Beitz, Ellen Coupland, Chris Seymour.

Meetings: 7.00pm for 7.15pm. 3rd Thursday of the Month (except December)  
in Queensland Ambulance Auditorium, Cnr Tingal Road and Bay Terrace Wynnum

Resource Centre: Room 1.08, 105 Florence Street, Wynnum Q 4178

Open Weekdays 10am - Noon (Excl. Public Holidays)

Librarian: Jill Greenhill 0407 293 177